From: Mic Westcoat
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/24/02 11:25pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I am opposed to the current Proposed Final Judgment (PJF) and believe that it is not in the public interest because I feel it is not adequate enough to remedy Microsoft's anticompetitive practices. One area that I feel the PJF is inadequate in its efforts to erode the Applications Barrier to Entry.

To remedy that, Microsoft should be required to standardize and publish all of it's APIs to more freely enable competing operating systems and products (such as the Linux middleware know as WINE) to directly run software written for Windows. It should be ensured that Microsoft is powerless to hinder such products, whether by changing its APIs, or by any other means. I feel the successful completion of such products is essential to breaking Microsoft's monopoly and ensuring a more competitive field of operating systems.

An amended PJF should do everything it can to insure that such middleware projects have whatever information and cooperation they need from Microsoft in order to succeed. I feel the current PJF will not accomplish this.

I would also like to state that I am endorsing Dan Kegel's Open Letter, which is available at http://www.kegel.com/remedy/letter.html

Sincerely, Michael T. Westcoat